for one-to-one communication, observation of National Voluntary Blood Donation Day on 1st October every year, encouraging rational use of blood among clinicians and the launching of special campaign to educate masses to support voluntary blood donation.

Practice of Ayurvedic Massage

†505. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreigners are being looted in the name of Panchkarma (Ayurvedic);

(b) whether it is also a fact that in this manner Ayurveda as well as the country is being brought into disrepute;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these days the practice of Ayurvedic massage is in vogue; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to save domestic as well as foreign tourists from these quacks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Panchkarma is an Ayurvedic medical procedure. Guidelines have been issued to State Governments and Ministry of Tourism to regulate Panchkarma Centres strictly according to approved procedure and other requirements. Panchkarma is becoming popular. Government do not have information about Centres indulging in malpractices.

Non-availability of medicines in CGHS dispensaries

506. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prescribed medicines, both Allopathic and Ayurvedic, are not available in the CGHS Dispensaries for dispensing to the beneficiaries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many banned and expired drugs are dispensed across the counter in medical stores, CGHS dispensaries and Government hospitals in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to put an end to this problem?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.